



IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

MINUTES OF STATE WATER PLAN SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING

C. L. "Butch" Otter
Governor

Idaho Department of Water Resources
Idaho Water Center, Boise, Idaho
December 11, 2007

Jerry R. Rigby
Chairman
Rexburg
At Large

The Chairman of the committee, Gary Chamberlain, called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. Vic Armacost and Leonard Beck were also present.

Terry T. Uhling
Vice Chairman
Boise
District 2

Staff members present were Hal Anderson, Administrator of Planning and Technical Division; Brian Patton, Bureau Chief of Planning; Helen Harrington, Planning Section Manager; Sandra Thiel, Planner, and Neeley Miller, Planner.

Bob Graham
Secretary
Bonners Ferry
At Large

Guests in attendance were:

David Blew, Idaho Power Co.	Lynn Tominaga, IGWA
Kevin Lewis, Idaho Rivers United	Randy McMillan, Clear Springs Foods
Norm Semanko, IWUA	

Charles "Chuck"
Cuddy
Orofino
District 1

Chairman Chamberlain turned the meeting over to Helen Harrington.

Leonard Beck
Burley
District 3

Agenda Item No. 1, Review New Comments Received

Ms. Harrington passed out comments and said that she had contacted the Association of Idaho Counties about making a presentation at their annual meeting. Mr. Chamberlain read a comment from Doug Zenner, Nez Perce County Commissioner in which he expressed a desire for counties to be included in the state water plan process. Mr. Anderson discussed the overlap between county level land use decisions and water resources. Mr. Chamberlain asked Ms. Harrington to draft a letter to specifically invite counties to participate in the State Water Plan process. Mr. Armacost emphasized that the Board needs their input and Mr. Chamberlain said that there will be meetings through out the state and that the Board will send out prior notification.

L. Claude Storer
Idaho Falls
District 4

Gary M.
Chamberlain
Challis
At Large

Agenda Item No. 2. Review of Policies (continued)

Lawrence "Vic"
Armacost
New Meadows
At Large

The group continued reviewing State Water Plan Section 1. Optimum Use at 1D – Water Supply Bank.

In section 1H – The group discussed the wording of this policy and qualified spring and ground water relationships to include the term hydrogeologic.

In Section 1I – Staff will develop draft language to address automation and accessibility of measurements.

Chairman Chamberlain provided a proposal for a revised format for the policies. The proposed policy format included the following sections: Policy; Discussion; Implementation Strategies; Milestones; and Recommendations. These would be addressed for each policy.

Review of Conservation Policies

In Section 2A – Reasonable Use (formerly 1G) was moved to Conservation and became 2A. The comment section was amended to include existing uses for available water.

In Section 2B - the original 2A, Species of Concern, and 2B, Federally Listed Species, will be considered for combining. Staff were directed to draft revision language, which will address the Office of Species Conservation, the Nez Perce Agreement, flow augmentation and uncontracted water in Idaho.

In Section 2C – Lake and Reservoir Management, the group discussed local organizations such as Pend Oreille and Priest Lake Commission. They will also look at previous plans to determine when this policy was added. Other related issues included discussing this policy with the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality and examining the Dworshak operational plan.

In Section 2D – Climate Change, Mr. Anderson provided the group with a policy that stated: “Climate change resilience and preparedness goals should be guiding principals for Idaho water resource management.”

In Section 2E – Instream Flow, discussion centered on legislative action for the Lemhi and Big Wood Rivers, rental pools and minimum stream flow. The Board also discussed the authority to appoint local committees to manage local natural flow water banks.

The group agreed to strike out “It is the policy of” at the beginning of each policy.

Review of Development Policies

In Section 3A – Potential Reservoir Sites, the discussion emphasized the need for more storages sites. The board requested that staff prioritize projects.

Agenda Item No. 3, Assignments/Actions

Staff were asked to draft up revision language for Policy 1D – Water Supply Bank: 1I - Water Measurement; 2E – Instream Flow; and 3A – Potential Reservoir Sites.

Agenda Item No. 4, Future Meeting Schedule and Logistics

Future meetings were set for January 7, 2008 at 10:00 a.m., January 25 from 1-5:00 p.m., February 5, 2008 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and February 20th from 10:00 to 3:00 p.m. in Boise.

Dated this _____ day of December 2007.



Patsy McGourty
Administrative Assistant II